

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-5 (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) A device for drying sludge originating in a waste water treatment plant, and comprising:

a greenhouse having a floor for receiving a bed of sludge to be dried, the greenhouse employing solar energy;

means located in the greenhouse for ensuring that the sludge is spread over said floor and turned as it progresses along the drying device;

fans positioned over the spreading means to provide for the renewal of air present in said greenhouse; and

means for controlling start up and shut down of a drying cycle and automatic control of all motorized components in response to measurement of the temperature of the surface of the bed of sludge;

wherein the controlling means also take into account the difference in temperature between the surface of the bed of sludge to be dried and the atmosphere present in the drying plant, equipment in the greenhouse only being started up when this temperature difference reaches a predetermined set point.

Claim 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A device for drying sludge originating in a waste water treatment plant, and comprising:

a greenhouse having a floor for receiving a bed of sludge to be dried, the greenhouse employing solar energy;

means located in the greenhouse for ensuring that the sludge is spread over said floor and turned as it progresses along the drying device; and

fans positioned over the spreading means to provide for the renewal of air present in said greenhouse;

means for controlling start up and shut down of a drying cycle and of automatic control of all motorized components in response to measurement of the temperature of the surface of the bed of sludge;

wherein measurements of temperature difference and of relative humidity of the external atmosphere are coupled so that the first of these two values which reaches a predetermined set point triggers start up of the equipment.

Claims 9-11 (Cancelled).

Claims 12-25. (Cancelled)